

## INTEGRATING FBLA INTO THE CURRICULUM

In an attempt to share ideas on how FBLA can and should become a part of the school day and the business education curriculum, the following ideas are offered to assist with this implementation.

It should be indicated that every chapter, every adviser and every member may suggest new ideas that should become a part of the instructional program. Use the suggestions to build your chapter and create an interest in the organization of, by and for students enrolled in business education programs.

Why not try a few of these ideas?

1. For keyboarding warm-up exercises, supply students with items that contain current information about the activities of FBLA.
2. Consider the various educational reports and initiatives and make every effort to provide students, during their FBLA activities, the opportunity to develop the skills and competencies mentioned as critical— decision making, problem solving, listening, team building, etc. You may want to:
  - a. work with your local chamber and/or economic development people on a project for the community;
  - b. assist with a local business expansion project;
  - c. help with developing brochures and other items for community need;
  - d. work with other civic organizations in helping with one or more community need .
3. Monitor and evaluate the activities based upon the specific competency and skill development expected for both the chapter and individual members.
4. Have your chapter and members volunteer to use their computer skills (desktop publishing, data entry, etc.) on behalf of other school groups and community organizations. Develop creative and innovative materials in preparing and printing programs, as well as actually doing the planning and printing for FBLA conferences, meetings, workshops and more.
5. Provide for MAD (Meet and Discuss) opportunities for your members to “brainstorm” how they feel they can utilize what they are learning within their classrooms through FBLA activities. Perhaps have a single concern (e.g., serving single parent children, civic pride, environmental issues, bicycle safety) to keep student discussion “focused.”
6. Assist with writing/keying business plans for entrepreneurs who are attempting to acquire capital. Formatting, graphics and other needs could be completed by the students—while learning more of the process of developing a new business venture. Ethics and confidentiality would also be part of the learning process.
7. Assist a local business, as a fundraising possibility, to enter data and/or information—could include a business consulting firm that needs brochures developed, curriculum keyed, mailers and/or surveys completed, etc.
8. As part of your automated accounting curriculum, have students develop ways to automate your FBLA accounting procedures.
9. When requesting a variety of assigned correspondence within various curriculum, i.e., memos, letters, surveys, telephone skill development, follow up, e-mail, facsimile, etc., complete needed FBLA responsibilities as part of the learning process.
10. Provide a “seminar” for local businesses and civic groups in using proper parliamentary procedures for specific business meetings. Many skills would be needed by the chapter members and would include planning, scheduling, program/agenda development and more. Could work with other local professionals or civic groups in the hosting of this activity.

## Wisconsin FBLA Event Guidelines

11. Host “career times” for students which could include: “mock interviews” by local business people, round table discussions of new and emerging careers, how to put together “resumes that work,” and more. Could invite chapter members, other students of school and community people who need help in changing careers.
12. Utilize computer records management concepts for keeping track of all FBLA correspondence.
13. Consider co-hosting a “Business After 5” meeting with a local business and/or chamber. Most communities have a process for involvement in this type of activity through chambers or economic development groups.
14. Establish “consulting teams” of members within your chapter and provide them with ongoing challenges that confront your chapter, school, community, etc.
15. Continue the current initiatives (Tech Prep, Applied/Integrated Instruction, Cooperative Learning and much more) in developing creative and effective ways to enhance the skills and knowledge through a variety of FBLA activities.